

REMARKS1. Status of the Claims

Claims 1-50 were originally filed in the application. Claims 2-6, 17, 19-23, 26-30, 36-38, 40-41, and 48 are canceled. Therefore, claims 1, 7-16, 18, 24-25, 31-35, 39, 42-47, and 49-50 are currently pending in the present application. Applicant agreed to amend Claims 1, 7, 15, 18, 24-25, 33, 39, and 46 in the interview of August 30, 2004 without prejudice or disclaimer in order to obtain allowance of the claims and Applicants reserved the right to pursue the original subject matter in a continuing application. A courtesy copy of the claims as amended by the Response and Amendment submitted on August 31, 2004 is enclosed herewith for the convenience of the Examiner. The following topics were discussed in the interview.

2. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

In the Office Action mailed May 28, 2004, the Examiner rejected claims 1-6 and 8-24 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. The present rejection was respectfully traversed in the interviews of August 27, 30, and 31 for the reasons previously presented on the record. However, in view of the amendments to the claims, the Examiner agreed to withdraw the present rejection.

3. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph

In the Office Action mailed May 28, 2004, the Examiner rejected claims 1-6, 8-24, 28, 36-41, and 43-45 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph alleging that the claims failed to comply with the enablement requirement. The present rejection was respectfully traversed in the interviews of August 27, 30, and 31 for the reasons previously presented on the record. However,

in view of the amendments to the claims, the Examiner agreed to withdraw the present rejection.

4. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph as Communicated in the Examiner Interview of August 27, 2004

In the Office Action mailed May 28, 2004, the Examiner did not make a specific rejection of claims 25-27, 29-30, 32-35, 46-48, and 50. In the Examiner's interview on August 27, 2004, the Examiner indicated that the present claims were subject to an enablement rejection; but, the enablement rejection was not specifically articulated. Applicants traversed the present rejection in the interview on August 27, 2004 because a specific rejection of how the claims were allegedly not enabled was not made by the Examiner. However, in view of the amendments to the claims, the Examiner agreed to withdraw the present rejection.

CONCLUSION

Claims 1, 7-16, 18, 24-25, 31-35, 39, 42-47, and 49-50 are currently pending. In view of the amendments to the claims proposed in the interviews of August 27, 30, and 31, the Examiner agreed to withdraw all claim rejections.

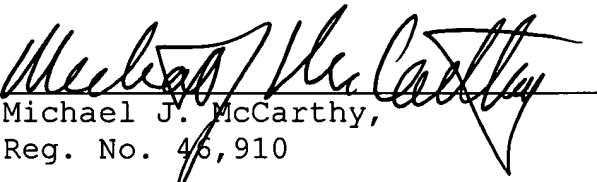
No new matter is added by way of the present Interview Summary.

The Examiner is requested to contact the representative for the Applicants, to discuss any questions or for clarification.

If there are any fees associated with this response, the Director is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 19-0962.

Respectfully submitted,

Oct. 21, 2004
Date


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